

Message Text

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INFO CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 7373

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP, PINR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MAYOR OF OLONGAPO CITY

REF: STATE 129063

1. DR. GERONIMO LIMPUMANO IS STILL MAYOR OF OLONGAPO CITY. VICENTE MAGSAYSAY IS GOVERNOR OF ZAMBALES PROVINCE. BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF LIPUMANO FOLLOWS.

2. DR. GERONIMO (JERRY) LIPUMANO IS M.D. AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF OLONGAPO CITY GENERAL HOSPITAL. WITH AID OF MAGSAYSAY FAMILY AND FORMER ZAMBALES CONGRESSMAN ANTONIO DIAZ, LIPUMANO DEFEATED MRS. AMELIA GORDON FOR MAYORALTY IN 1971 ELECTIONS. LIPUMANO IS NON-POLITICIAN WHO WAS CONSIDERED LAMB IN CITY OF POLITICAL WOLVES PRIOR TO DECLARATION OF MARTIAL LAW IN SEPTEMBER, 1972; HOWEVER, SUSPENSION OF ELECTIONS HAS DE-EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF OLD-STYLE POLITICS AND LIPUMANO IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE MADE STEADY PROGRESS IN TRYING TO BRING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND A DEGREE OF FISCAL INTEGRITY TO OLONGAPO.

3. LIPUMANO IS PRO-AMERICAN. HE IS A NATIVE OF OLONGAPO AND WORKED AT SUBIC INTERMITTENTLY IN 1940S AND 1950S AS CRANE OPERATOR TO HELP FINANCE HIS EDUCATION. HE IS AT EASE WITH BASE PERSONNEL OF ALL LEVELS. HIS CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL HAVE ALSO BEEN WARM AND INFORMAL. (LIPUMANO HAS NEVER VISITED THE UNITED STATES AND SPEAKS RATHER WISTFULLY OF DOING SO.) HIS ATTITUDE
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TOWARD US MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES, PARTICULARLY AT SUBIC, IS VERY POSITIVE.

4. HE IS DESCRIBED AS A SINCERE, DEDICATED, INTELLIGENT,
SOFT-SPOKEN, HONEST SELF-EFFACING "NICE GUY."
SULLIVAN

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